

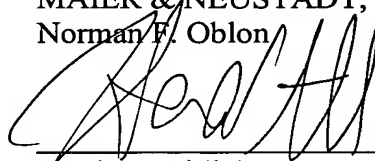
REMARKS

The rejections of Claims 1-4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 4,485,206 (Inoue et al), by U.S. 4,973,644 (Onishi et al), and by JP04-253769 (Yasutoshi et al), are respectfully traversed. The thiol compounds disclosed in the applied prior art and relied upon by the Examiner are now excluded from the claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowability of the subject matter of Claims 9-12 and 14. Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently-pending claims in this application are now in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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